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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Specimens for Laboratory Diagnosis of Mumps

Collect specimens for both viral culture and serodiagnosis from individuals with suspected cases of mumps, as follows:

- **Saliva:** Collect a saliva specimen by swabbing the area around the Stensen's ducts (adjacent to the second upper molars) preferably within the first 5 days of illness. Place the swab in a tube of virus transport medium.
- **Urine:** Collect a clean-voided urine, preferably within 14 days of illness.
- **CSF:** In cases of central nervous system disease (aseptic meningitis), collect and submit a CSF specimen without dilution or additives.
- **Serum:** Collect an acute-phase serum as early as possible in the illness and a convalescent serum two-three weeks later. Serum should be separated from blood prior to shipment. Send the acute phase serum as soon as possible for IgM testing.

Keep all specimens at refrigerator temperature before and during transport to the WSLH. Specimen collection and transport supplies are available from the WSLH at (800) 862-1088, or (608) 265-2966 in the Madison area.